THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Ministry of Mines has not entered into any agreement with domestic or foreign company for exploration and exploitation of minerals. However, Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) a public sector undertaking under administrative control of Ministry of Mines has executed Memorandum of Understanding [MoU]/Agreement with 29 domestic companies for carrying out exploration activities involving drilling and exploratory/ developmental mining and associated activities as per details below:

Activity	2006-07	2005-06	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
Drilling	4	2	6	2	10
Mining	-	1	1	1	2
Total	4	3	7	3	12

(b) The details of economic benefits accruing to the State exchequer is not centrally maintained.

(c) The MoUs/Agreements by MECL have been executed after due consultation with the companies.

(d) and (e) The Department of Land Resource, Ministry of Rural Development has formulated a revised National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 which has been published on 31st October 2007 and any likely prospective mining in the explored areas would be guided by this policy.

Setting up of mining industry in Mayurbhanj

1385. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up of mine related industries around the mines dominated areas, especially in Mayurbhanj in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) if not, whether Government has any proposal pending for renewal of license or lease to those companies, which are already in this profession of extracting/exploring ore and to export it abroad;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, whether Government would keep the proposal before the companies to establish such industries before taking the lease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) and (b) Ministry of Mines has no proposal for setting up of mines related industries around the mines dominated areas, especially in Mayurbhanj District in Orissa.

(c) to (e) Approval of Central Government is required only for renewal of mineral concession for minerals in Part 'A' and 'B' of First Schedule to MMDR Act, 1957 and no proposal for renewal of mineral concession in favour of any company in the State of Orissa is pending in the Ministry of Mines. The renewal of mining lease is considered as per provisions of MMDR Act, 1957 and Mineral Concession, Rules, 1960, and there is no such standard mandatory condition in the said provisions for setting up of mineral based industry while renewing the mining lease.